

20 questions

with John Castile

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Photographed by Josh Norris

John Castile was named city manager of Greenville on July 1, 2011. Appointed by City Council, he serves as the chief executive officer for the city, which has an annual operating budget of \$136 million and approximately 1,000 employees. He oversees the city's day-to-day operations and works closely with City Council to implement its goals and policy directives. He also is responsible for major project development and for maintaining effective and positive relationships with public and private agencies and organizations that affect the city's interests.

Originally from Columbia, he moved to Greenville in 1984 when he accepted a full scholarship to play basketball at Furman University. He graduated from Furman in 1988 with a bachelor of arts degree in political science. He also holds a master's degree in public administration. He has worked for Greenville since 1995 and has held a number of positions, most recently as deputy city manager.

1. Where were you born?
Columbia, S.C.
2. What one thing really makes your day?
Witnessing random acts of kindness.
3. Are you an introvert or an extrovert?
Introvert.
4. What is your favorite movie?
"The Five Heartbeats."
5. Is your desk messy or neat?
Neat.
6. What was your first job?
Cashier at Chick-fil-A. Eat more chicken!
7. What is your pet peeve?
Anyone being rude.
8. What is your favorite thing about Greenville?
Its sense of place. It feels like home.
9. What was your first car?
A Buick Opel. They don't make them anymore.
10. What was your major in college?
Political science.
11. What book is on your nightstand?
"It Worked for Me: In Life and Leadership" by Colin Powell.
12. What is your favorite comfort food?
Potato chips. Yum, yum!
13. What is your favorite gadget?
All things Apple.
14. What is your most extravagant indulgence?
A really good meal.
15. What store would you choose to max out your credit card?
The Apple Store.
16. What is the coolest experience you have ever had?
Participating in the Liberty Fellowship.
17. What advice would you give a young person just starting out?
Don't ever think the moment is too big for you.
18. Have you ever met a famous person? Who?
Michael Jordan.
19. What chore do you really hate to do?
Folding laundry.
20. What is your favorite thing to do on a day off?
Surf the Internet.



